

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE May 5, 2022 — MINUTES

Council Members Present

Mary Durham, Council Chair
Ronnie Browning
Debbie Carlisle
Bill Coorsh
Gladys Cortez
Kyle Cox
Andrew Crim
Ivy Goldstein, DSHS
Jennifer Hines, TWC
Sean Jackson, DRTX
Juan Carlos Lopez
Scott McAvoy
Amanda Miles
Angie Panzica
Michael Peace
Holly Riley, HHSC/Older Americans Act
Robert Schier III
Eric Shahid
Meridith Silcox
Keith Swink, TEA
Lora Taylor
Jamie Thomas

Kim Torres
Dana Williamson,
HHSC/Medicaid
Nina Zuna, TCDS

Council Members Absent

Maverick Crawford
Meagan Orsag, Texas A&M
CDD

Guests Present

Melissa Alvarez
Floyd Browning
Sonja Burns
Alex Dominguez
Joe Gagen
Debra Haney
Joe Potts

Regional Coordinators

Present

Morgan Bradley
Erin Fogarty

Rosa Guel
Skyler Mueller
Shelby Vaughn

Staff Present

Beth Stalvey, Executive Director
Tessie Ajala
Kai Brewer
Scott Daigle
Lauren Gerken
Sabrina Gonzalez
Genessee Klemm
Le Lien
Linda Logan
Evan Marczynski
Sylvia Medina
Richard Rendon
Fernando Rodriguez
Mary Rochford
Melanie Teague
Rey Valldejuli
Koren Vogel

Call to Order

The Committee of the Whole of the Texas Council for Developmental convened on Wednesday, May 5, 2022, at the Doubletree Suites by Hilton Austin, 303 West 15th Street, Austin, TX 78701 as well as virtually using the Zoom platform. Council Chair Mary Durham called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m. A quorum was present.

1. Introductions

Council members, staff and guests introduced themselves. Chair Durham and members shared memories of Council member Randell Resender who passed away on February 11, 2022. Resneder was replaced by Bill Coorsh, a parent advocate from Houston, who was introduced to other members.

2. **Public Comments**

The Committee of the Whole received public comments from Joe Potts who spoke on his efforts to propose a Texas Constitutional Amendment that would allow individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities to retain the homestead exemption on a property inherited from their parents.

3. **Council Member Networking**

Council members participated in activities designed to encourage communication about disability advocacy.

4. **Legislative Advocacy Training**

Representative Alex Dominguez was introduced by TCDD Public Policy Director Scott Daigle. Dominguez spoke about the impact personal stories have on advocacy efforts and creating memorable experiences for legislators and their staff both in their Capitol and home offices.

Legislative Grassroots Trainer Joe Gagen gave a presentation on Effective Legislative Communications. He discussed the context of communicating with legislators about issues. He provided tips for building relationships, telling personal stories, and the advantage of using media. Gagen discussed the mechanics of legislative visits and recommended that members contact their legislators before the August Council meeting when he will provide further training on this subject.

Adjourn

Council Chair Durham adjourned the Committee of the Whole at 12:10 p.m.

Beth Stalvey, Secretary to the Council Date